

REMARKS

Claims 1-46, 48-56 and 58-95 are pending in this application. The Examiner rejected claims 1-92 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ogasawara.

Claim 1 recites:

A system for presenting information regarding products and services via a network of computers, the system comprising: a plurality of market databases registered with a cooperative communications network, an analytical agent for mining data related to a selected item from at least one of said plurality of market databases, said analytical agent further for generating a subset of data that most closely meets a preprogrammed goal, at least one of a seller's inter-agents in communication with said analytical agent for receiving said subset of data, said at least one of a seller's inter-agents for generating at least one showcase database based on said subset of data responsive to a set of seller's sales objectives, each showcase registered with a cooperative communications network, and a user interface for displaying information derived from said showcase database.

The claimed invention organizes a collection of databases in which data is "pushed" from the various sellers in a group of vendors to a set of distributed databases in real time. As new items are made available, they are added to the next sequence of continuously pushed messages, while as items are sold, they are removed from the next sequence of real time messages. The current list of items is constantly refreshed in the distributed databases.

Ogasawara does not anticipate the claimed invention. Ogasawara describes "an electronic shopping system which utilizes an electronic shopping agent (ESA) for allowing communication between customers and retailing during Internet shopping." (First line of abstract.) Further, "the customer profile information and customer request is bundled as a request for a proposal (RFP) and forwarded to the selected retailers for servicing. The retailers, upon receipt of the RFP submit proposals to the ESA for forwarding to the requesting customer." (lines 5 and 6 of the abstract).

In contrast to Ogasawara, claim one of the invention pushes data from multiple sellers prior to the RFP. In addition, claim one of the present system has the buyer beginning the process in a demand-initiated process. It is clearly illustrated that claim one of the system removes the intermediary, which Ogasawara takes pain to add.

Further, please note that a single retail database is accessed in Ogasawara, akin to a simple retailer catalogue. In addition, in Ogasawara, the customer data is used by sellers in the process of the shopping agent making an RFP. This is a simple static shopping agent akin to a catalogue.

Claim 1 of the present invention provides a forum for the continual refreshing of data that is then accessed by multiple buyers in real time. It is clear from claim one of the present system that the multiple databases are dynamic and accommodate rapid change. Claim one of the present system also clearly discloses a distributed database network in the sense that it accesses multiple vendors databases and inputs the data sets into the CCNs. Consequently, claim one of the present system demonstrates an interactive process over time, rather than a simple passive catalogue that is processed through a single portal as in Ogasawara.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over Ogasawara. Dependent claims 2-92 are also patentable, both because they derive patentability from their dependence from claim 1, and because each recites its own patentable features.

Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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